Benefit Package (STBP), mine rehabilitation and employment of BGML employees.

(c) No decision has been taken in this regard.

Reaching of SSA to Minorities

†*537. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the benefit of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has not reached the madarsas which have been set up in the country for the basic education of the Muslim population;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the schemes formulated by Government to improve the educational status of the Muslims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Approximately 10,700 Madarsas/Maqtabas have been supported for introduction of the formal State elementary education curriculum, under SSA.

At the elementary level, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya scheme and the Area Intensive and Madarsa Modernization Programme promote education of muslim children.

Allocation of Power to Punjab

*538. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has assured that Punjab would be

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

allotted a share equivalent to 1500 MW electricity from the super thermal power plant to be set up in Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the present position of the setting-up of the plant and by when it is likely to be commissioned;

(c) the action Government have taken on the request of the State Government of Punjab to set up a 1000 MW Central Sector Plant in the State; and

(d) whether the State will have to wait till the plant is set up in Chhattisgarh or some alternative arrangement is being made to provide them power immediately and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The NTPC Limited has planned to take up a large thermal power pit head project of 4000 MW (5X800 MW) capacity at Lara in Chhattisgarh and it has been agreed that 1500 MW power from this project could be earmarked to Punjab, subject to commitment of the State Government to sign the required power purchase agreement, pay transmission charges for evacuation of power from the associated transmission system and agreeing to the existing payment security mechanism etc.

NTPC Limited has accordingly initiated necessary preparatory activities to prepare Feasibility Report/Detailed Project Report. In the process, NTPC has approached Government of Chhattisgarh in principle for clearance of land and water availability for the project.

(c) On the request of the Government of Punjab for setting up of a 1000 MW Central Sector Power Plant in the State and subsequent announcements made by Prime Minister during his visit to Punjab, the possibility of setting up of a 1000 MW Central Sector coal based power plant was examined and it was concluded that the resource endowments of Punjab did not favour location of a large power project of 1000 MW in the State. Therefore, it has been decided to earmark 1500 MW power from NTPC's proposed project at Lara in Chhattisgarh.

(d) Based on the seasonal and urgent requirement of needy States in the Northern Region including the State of Punjab, power is allocated from the available unallocated quota in the Central Generation Stations from time to time to meet their short-term demand.

Quota in deemed universities

*539. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are considering to bring the deemed universities under quota net;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission has solicited the views of deemed universities in this regard; and

(d) if so, the views expressed by them in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI):(a) and (b) The Constitution (Ninety-third Amendment) Act, 2005 which has come into force, enables the State to make provisions by law for the advancement of the weaker sections in matters of admissions to all educational institutions. Follow-up action in this behalf regarding central educational institutions, including institutions deemed to be universities under Section 3 of the UGC, Act, is under consideration.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Malnourised children in India

*540. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent UNICEF's globally released